

Because the angles EGO and DCF are similar.
 .. the angle GOE = H DFC.
 .. the angles FEH and HNO are similar.
 Hence, the angle FEH = EGO + GOE.
 .. EGO + GOE = HNO + NOH = AE + HEA.
 .. j (EGO + GOE) = j (HAE + HEA) = HAE + GDM.
 .. HAE = HEA, which proves H A equal to H E.

There are other properties, not altogether without interest, connected with the problem, but I dare say the figures will satisfy your querist.
 I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
 J. BULLISON.

Correspondence.

COMPETITION IN BUILDING.

Sir,—As there never was a measure proposed in the legislature that did not meet with opposition from some quarter or other, no matter how advantageous it might prove to the community at large, so it would appear that the measure I had the honour of proposing through the medium of your valuable publication has been opposed. I allude to the policy of builders making their contracts by schedule instead of by estimate.

Your correspondent, L.O.O., appears to treat the matter truly very summarily. Yet, I would venture, with your permission, to ask him a few questions upon the point, and first, is he a private individual requiring the services of a contractor, or builder? if so, let him set upon the broad principle of selfishness, and render to the individual he employs full value for value received. *Nothing less*; otherwise the "insatiable desire for gain" must rest at his own door, and not at that of his contractor. Second, is he a contractor? if so, whether has he better work for the sake of working, without profit, and of course to the injury of his brethren in the business (to use a coarse phrase, by helping to cut their throats), which is the end of estimating, or does he desire a remunerative rate of pay for the work he performs? If the former be the case, the "insatiable desire for gaining," the ruin of his business, rests at his own door, to the loss of his capital, the waste of his time, and the consequent injury of his family. If the latter be his desire, then he surely cannot be in earnest in his remarks published in your last.

I am willing to admit that the *idea* of our architects in the business has not yet reduced the profits of the builders, but surely their misdeeds should not be visited upon the third and fourth generations, which have profited by the experience, dearly purchased, of such mistaken policy.

It is my firm conviction, that if the old system of prices by schedule were re-established, no such complaints as that named by L.O.O. would be found. I make no doubt he pays his grocer, having first carefully scrutinised his accounts; upon that erroneous estimate of profit is laid each article, and a slight degree of profit in every other branch of the trade, and with most not L.O.O. would stare as much. Yet I doubt or other trader as would the *grocer* at a grocer were he to say, "Will you supply me at my estimate of what groceries?" by to me as requires by the year?" without first delivering a schedule of prices for each article that might by probability be required.

If L.O.O. be a contractor, let me earnestly, and with a friendly spirit, recommend him to turn these matters carefully in his mind, and use his abilities to forwarding those objects which would prove a permanent benefit to his children's children, instead of having a hostile effect.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
 Brecon, 10th June, 1844. STRAIGHT.

CLIMBING-BOYS.

Sir,—I have, as a regular subscriber to your journal, read with much pleasure some able remarks in your leading article of last week relative to the proposed new Building Act, in the "re-institution of the use of climbing boys," and beg to direct the attention of the Committee of Master Carpenters, to the fact of Mr. Beth Smith, the eminent builder of Raven-square, so far back as the year 1830, having most effectually accomplished a me-

tallic living for duns, which has been to my knowledge successfully applied to new and old buildings, wherein the emission of smoke through the joints of the brick-work was completely prevented, the draught of the *flue* adjusted, and the use of climbing-boys totally superseded; and perhaps, Sir, in justification of these remarks, I cannot do better than quote from a work written by Mr. Smith, at the above period (published by Carpenter and Son, Old Bond Street), where the author, with great truth, stated, "Besides the application of the metallic tubes to chimneys in new houses, they may also be introduced into, and form perfect linings to the flues of old and imperfect chimneys in any other buildings;" and again Mr. Smith observes, that is "forming a complete fire-proof lining to chimneys. The *UPPER* LIVING, however, the additional advantage of suppressing the odious, painful, and sometimes fatal practice of climbing-boys." I am, Sir, yours obediently,

EDWARD NASHOL.
 Knightsbridge Green, June 13.

LONG'S PATENT ORNAMENTAL GLASS.

Sir,—I expected to have seen in THE BUILDERS, with your remarks upon the works of art sent in for the Parliament House, some account of Long's patent glass. Having a mansion in the country near Cambridge, where I had some thoughts of adopting the article in question, I should feel obliged by your giving me your opinion.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,
 FASSICATOR.

[We refer our correspondent to an article upon the subject which appeared in THE BUILDERS last week. Long's glass is appropriate for most purposes, for expending window-blinds, for lights in doors, which through bad planning are of ten rendered necessary in buildings, and for a variety of other purposes; the patterns are numerous; many people admire the elegant turned specimens, though for services we prefer the less formal patterns.—Ed.]

Miscellaneous.

PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS.—A parliamentary paper, under the head of "Miscellaneous Estimates," was issued on Saturday. Its title is "Public Works and Buildings." It appears from it that for public buildings and royal palaces the estimate was, in 1842, 106,063; in 1843, 105,636; and in 1844, 119,150. For Houses of Parliament (temporary), in 1842, 5,395; in 1843, 9,590; and in 1844, 5,420. For new Houses of Parliament, in 1842, 105,000; in 1843, 140,000; and in 1844, 60,000. For Trafalgar Square, in 1843, 12,000; and in 1844, 7,000. For Holyhead Roads Harbour, &c., in 1842, 4,753; in 1843, 4,169; and in 1844, 4,164. For Caledonian Canal, in 1842, 50,000; in 1843, 5,000; and in 1844, 50,000. For parks, buildings, &c., in Ireland, in 1842, 17,659; 1843, 25,376; and in 1844, 26,874. For Kingstown Harbour, in 1842, 10,000; in 1843, 10,000; and in 1844, 6,000. For Port of London, in 1842, 4,500. For the Hall of General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Edinburgh, in 1842, 1,366. This table of expenditure exhibits an increase in the estimate for the present year as compared with 1842, of 22,342, and a decrease of 49,525, showing a net decrease of 27,183. It also exhibits an increase, in relation to the next year, of 53,049, and a decrease of 95,675, showing a net decrease of 42,626. It will be seen from this return that the estimate for expenditure upon public buildings in Ireland, have, during the last two years, considerably exceeded the estimates of the year 1842.

THE NELSON TESTAMENTAL.—The Emperor having ascertained that the funds for the erection of this national tribute to our greatest naval hero were inadequate to its completion, immediately directed Count Orloff to enquire a draught for 500L, to the Duke of Wellington, the draught was accompanied by a letter from the Count, written by command of his Majesty, and expressive of the pleasure the Emperor felt in contributing towards the erection of a testimonial to so great a warrior.—Times.

BYRON'S STATUE BY THORWALDSEN.—A case of as extraordinary nature, and in which the names of two of the greatest characters of the age will figure, is about to be brought before the London tribunals. Thorwaldsen, as it is well known, had executed a colossal statue of Lord Byron, which he considered as one of his best works, and presented it to the chapter of Westminster, on condition of its being placed in that cathedral, beside the monuments of other poets. The chapter at first accepted the offer; but it is equally well known that some seruples were raised afterwards against placing the author of "Don Juan" in this national mausoleum; and the case containing the marble was never claimed by the chapter. The last surviving executor of Thorwaldsen being informed of this state of things, made some inquiries, and the master-piece of Thorwaldsen was found lying on the floor of a cellar in a state of extreme deterioration, amongst the fragments of the case, which the humidity of the place had reduced to a state of perfect rottenness. Consequently, a person duly authorised by the executor addressed a formal remonstrance to the authorities, but when the Custom-house officers went with him to the cellar, it was found that the statue had disappeared, and nothing but fragments of the case remained behind. The executors then addressed to the Custom-house a demand for indemnity. This, however, was refused, under the plea that it cannot be answerable for goods refused by the parties to whom they are addressed, and that such goods remain in their stores solely at the expense and risk of those to whom they belong. At this stage, in fact, the executors have resolved on bringing an action for damages against the Custom-house of London. The sum claimed is 30,000L (750,000F), at which the statue was valued by the artists of Rome on its being shipped to London.

VISIT OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA TO THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, accompanied by Baron Bruuv and suite, arrived as early as a quarter before 11 o'clock, and were shortly afterwards joined by His Royal Highness Prince Albert and the Earl of Lincoln. His Majesty took the highest interest in the progress of the works, minutely examining the quality of the stone and its workmanship, and was much pleased with the regularity and orderly procedure of the immense body of masons and other workmen; as well as with the ingenuity displayed in moving the various materials. The Emperor and His Royal Highness having taken a view of the river front, ascended the temporary staircase at the Victoria Tower, and having walked for a considerable distance upon the top of the unprotected walls of the Victoria Gallery, proceeded to examine the interior of the new House of Lords (which is now just ready to receive the roof, passing over the ordinary scaffolding to the house lobby and the central hall, whence the Royal and distinguished visitors proceeded to the model and sculpture rooms. His Imperial Majesty evinced the liveliest interest in the whole of the works, and it was exceedingly gratifying to observe the freedom and condescension with which His Majesty conversed with Mr. Barry upon the design and arrangements of the various parts. Mr. Barry had the honour of escorting the Royal party, attended by Mr. Griswell.

THE NEW COMMERCIAL BANKING OFFICE.—On Tuesday, the foundation-stone of the building about to be erected in George-street by the Commercial Bank of Scotland, was laid in presence of the directors and office-bearers of the bank, by James W. J. Esq., of Glasgow, one of the original directors. The various rooms now in use, with some documents, were deposited in the centre of the stone. The plan of this building is by Mr. David Rhind, and reflects the greatest credit on the genius and taste of the architect. It is in the Grecian style of architecture; and will add another striking and graceful feature to George-street, where so many of our public institutions are now concentrating.—Edinburgh Paper.

It is the intention of the Earl of Carlisle to rebuild Naworth Castle in a style of princely magnificence.